

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a therapeutic agent-containing polymeric body within a subject, said method comprising:

(a) injecting a first fluid comprising a non-crosslinkable polymer which further comprises a therapeutic agent into a container that is positioned within the subject;

(b) injecting a second fluid comprising a crosslinkable polymer into said container, said second fluid having a lower viscosity than said first fluid and wherein said second fluid coats said first fluid;

(c) crosslinking said crosslinkable polymer of said second fluid in said container by introducing a crosslinking agent to said container, thereby forming a crosslinked polymeric body comprising a first fluid coated with a solid or semisolid crosslinked polymer in said container; and

(d) releasing said crosslinked solid polymeric body into said subject.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said container is an expandable container.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said container has elastic walls.

4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said container has flexible, inelastic walls.

5. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said expandable container is a balloon.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said container is removed from said subject subsequent to releasing said crosslinked polymeric body.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said container is released within said patient along with said crosslinked polymeric body.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said container is biodegradable.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said crosslinked polymeric body is biodegradable.
10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of washing the crosslinked polymeric body prior to releasing said crosslinked polymeric body.
11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said crosslinked polymeric body is formed within a bodily cavity of the subject.
12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said crosslinked polymeric body is formed within a bodily lumen of the subject.
13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said crosslinked polymeric body is formed at a surgically created site.
14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said crosslinked polymeric body is an antiadhesive body.
15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said crosslinked polymeric body is formed within an aneurysm.
16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said crosslinked polymeric body is an embolic body.
17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein said embolic body is disposed in an artery of a uterine fibroid tumor.
18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said crosslinked polymeric body is a bulking agent.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said crosslinked polymeric body is a tissue scaffold.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said crosslinked polymeric body further comprises a therapeutic agent.

21. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a solid polymeric body within a subject, said method comprising: (a) injecting a first fluid comprising a ~~first~~ non-crosslinkable polymer into a container that is positioned within the subject, (b) injecting a second fluid comprising a crosslinkable polymer into said container, said second fluid having a lower viscosity than said first fluid and wherein said second fluid coats the first fluid; (c) crosslinking said crosslinkable second polymer in said container by introducing a crosslinking agent to said container, thereby forming a crosslinked solid or semisolid polymeric body comprising a first fluid coated with a solid or semisolid crosslinked polymer in said container; and (d) releasing said crosslinked solid polymeric body into said subject.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein after said crosslinking step and before said releasing step, the method further comprises: (a) injecting additional fluid comprising additional crosslinkable polymer into said container; and (b) crosslinking said additional crosslinkable polymer in said container.

23. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein after said crosslinking step and before said releasing step, the method further comprises (a) injecting additional fluid comprising additional crosslinkable polymer into said container; and (b) crosslinking said additional crosslinkable polymer in said container.

24. (Withdrawn) A crosslinked polymeric body formed by the method of claim 1, said crosslinked polymeric body conforming to the tissue contours of an injection site within a patient.

Serial No.: 10/801,231
Examiner: Katherine Marie Dowe
Group Art Unit: 3734

25. (Withdrawn) A device for performing the method of claim 1, said device comprising a shaft and a balloon, said shaft comprising an inner lumen for introducing said fluid into said balloon, said balloon being disposed at or proximate to a distal end of said medical device, and said medical device being adapted to release said crosslinked polymeric body within said patient.

26. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 25, wherein said shaft comprises a plurality of lumens.

27. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 25, wherein said shaft and said balloon are disposed within the lumen of an additional shaft, and wherein said additional shaft is adapted to penetrate tissue.

28. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 25, wherein said medical device is adapted to release said balloon and said crosslinked polymeric body from said device.

29. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 25, wherein said medical device is adapted to release said crosslinked polymeric body from said balloon.

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1, wherein said first fluid comprises a gel.